THE MYSORE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF 1913.

PART I.

GENERAL SUBJECTS.

LEGISLATION.

(Nos. 1 to 20.)

SUBJECT No. 1.

The Village Communal Regulation.

Mr. D. Venkataramiah, Bangalore City Municipal Council.

Summary of discussion.—Proposes the reconstruction of villages in order to improve the sanitation thereof and the introduction of a new regulation for safe-guarding the interests of villagers.

As the bulk of the population of the State lives in villages depending mainly upon agriculture and as there is considerable difference in the treatment of towns and villages by Government, it is proposed that the following questions may receive early attention:—

(1) In order to minimise mortality and improve village sanitation, a regulation on the lines of the Communal Ordinance of Ceylon might be introduced with modifications suited to local conditions or an executive order might be passed vesting in a small body of villagers the management of communal concerns, such as—

(*a*) source of water-supply for men and cattle;

(*b*) *chattrams*, *mantaps* and *topes*;

(*c*) temples, mosques and other religious institutions;

(*d*) burial and cremation grounds;

(*e*) village tracks and hedges;

(*f*) the introduction of suitable varieties of grass on village pasture lands, and the regulation of their use by rotation;

(*g*) the administration of tank *panchayets*;

(*h*) the establishment of village tribunals for the trial of petty communal cases and petty civil disputes;

(*i*) making provision for the civil litigants to apply at the outset, to the village arbitration *panchayet* for adjustment of disputes, failing which they might be permitted to have recourse to Law Courts on the production of a certificate from the *panchayet*;

(*j*) making necessary provisions in the Police, Forest and Excise Budgets of the State for payment to village servants such as shanbhogs, patels, *totis* and *talāris* for services rendered in aid of the work which the said departments insist on and thus relieve them from enforced slavery with its attendant demoralizing effects;

(*k*) the establishment of agricultural societies on a co-operative basis so as to bring together all landowners by conveniently grouping small scattered villages where necessary;

(*l*) schools;

(*m*) the management of fishery, fuel supply, quarrying and regulation of offensive and dangerous trades and professions.

Mr. D. Venkataramayya represented that in villages which contain a large part of the population of the State, there were no facilities for sanitary and other improvements. In towns they are undertaken by the Municipal Councils; and in villages, *panchayets* should be created to take charge of such improvements as well as other communal interests. The financing of these improvements should be done by Government, by grants from (1) land revenue, (2) excise revenue of the village and (3) a portion of the increase in land revenue at every re-settlement.

Some other members also represented the need for greater activity as regards village sanitation in particular areas.

Mr. C. Vasudeva Rao said that Public Works officials dig pits near villages while taking gravel, etc., and that this should be remedied.

Reply of Government.—The question as to what steps should be taken in this matter is under consideration.

SUBJECT NO. 2.

Mysore Newspaper Regulation, III of 1908.

Messrs. B. Narasinga Rao, Seringapatam taluk, and M. Venkatakrishnayya, Mysore City Municipal Council.

Summary of discussion.—(1) Time has arrived for repealing this Regulation. The circumstances which necessitated the passing of the enactment no longer exist.

(2) If the Regulation cannot be repealed, it may be amended as follows:—